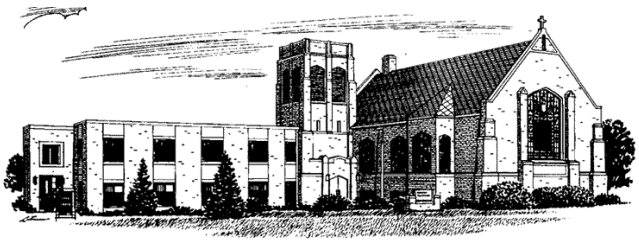


SARON NEWSLETTER

Saron Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
510 Main Street
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email: info@saronlutheran.org
Phone: 269-983-1273
Facebook: www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

The Rev. Joan Oleson, Pastor
Home: 269-983-2475
Email: oleson@saronlutheran.org

Marcus Roll, Senior Choir Director,
Bell Choir Director
Email: roll1mc@gmail.com
Irma Gorman, Organist
Margaret Froehlich, Administrative Assistant
Nanci Fenrick, Financial Secretary
Emily Gaul, Child Care

Sundays at Saron:
During the School Year:
8:30 & 11:00 A.M. Worship
Childcare provided
9:40 Learning for Ages 2 – Adult

Summers (thru Labor Day weekend):
9:30 Holy Communion
Childcare provided
No Learning Hour

All are welcome!
We hold in prayer:
The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton,
Presiding Bishop, ELCA
The Rev. Dr. Craig Satterlee, Bishop of the
North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA
The Rev. Whayne Hougland, Bishop of the Episcopal
Diocese of Western MI

Our Companion Synods:
Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras
Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea
Lutheran Church of Latvia

Saron's Mission:
Joyfully sharing God's love for all!!

October 2018

I am truly excited about all that is going on at Saron and through Saron – worship and educational opportunities, outreach ventures, conversations about and work toward fuller inclusivity and interfaith dialogue. And there is Project Fortify and Fly! (See related article.) It seems Fall is filled with new and renewed activities, many of which are listed within this newsletter.

Of course our synod and churchwide bodies offer even more opportunities. Here are a couple items that you might find interesting and helpful.

For the Living of These Days: What can we learn from Dietrich Bonhoeffer?
This is an event discussing the works of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Moderated by Pastor Erick Johnson, this event will consist of a presentation, viewing of the video "Bonhoeffer" by Martin Doblmeier, and a Q&A session. Lunch will be provided.
If interested, see Pastor. RSVP needed.
October 27, 2018; 11:00am – 3:00pm
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
1747 W. Milham Ave, Portage, MI 49024

Are you a podcast listener? Here's a new resource for you – "Three Sides Podcast." This is from its description online: *Typically, it's said there are two sides to every story. But often a middle or third side of the storyteller or an issue is revealed, providing another perspective to consider. Three Sides is a monthly podcast featuring stories from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). As a church that believes God is calling us into the world – together, Three Sides will present diverse voices from across the ELCA. Join the conversation at LivingLutheran.org/podcast.*

Enjoy!
Pastor Joan

Caring and Sharing

In Our Prayers –

We remember in our thoughts and prayers: **Arla Huelsberg** is at the Whitcomb Tower Retirement Center, St. Joseph; **Lila Roethel** is at the Willows; **Bernice Koski** is at Woodland Terrace; **Virginia Anserello** is at Pine Ridge, Stevensville; and **Jean Pearson** is at Caretel, St. Joseph, MI

Serving in the military:

Andy Wedde – **California**

Office Hours at Saron

Margaret (secretary): Mon-Tues, 9 AM - 1 PM
Weds of Newsletter Week, 9 AM - 1 PM
Volunteers: Weds, 9:30 AM - 11 AM+
Nanci (financial secretary): Weds afternoon
Call for other times/changes
When Pastor is out of town, emergency pastoral care information can be obtained by calling the church office (983.1273) or contacting the president of the congregation.
Note: E-mails meant for Pastor should be addressed to oleson@saronlutheran.org. E-mails to Margaret and the church office should be addressed to info@saronlutheran.org.

***Happy Anniversary Wishes to Saron's Members in* October 2018**

Oct. 2 - Steve Cook
Judith Wedde
4 –Jim Oleson
Mary Kynast
8 - Jonathon Peterson
10 - Hannah Breyen
12 - Andrew Olson
13 - Kerrie Hoodlebrink
14 - Pauline Ngonyani
15 - Elias Coar
16 - Kristine Weber
17 - Savannah Talbert
18 - Katherine Ulrey
19 - Robert Baumgartner
20 – Keith Stevens
24 - Matthew Baumgartner
26 - Gary Cowall
Amanda Bradley
29 - Donald Moely
31 - Ivan Kiessel

Happy Anniversary Wishes to Saron's Members in October 2018

Oct. 2 –Steve and Cynthia Schmidt
6 - Robert and Charlene Baumgartner
13 - David and Susan Bailey
Jason and Jessica Crockett

"God's Blessings for a very happy day and year round"

Please call the church office at 983-1273 for any additions or corrections. Thank you.

God's Blessings

Best wishes and God's blessings to Mike and Kate (Hebner) Lewis upon their wedding on September 1.

With Symathy

We extend our sympathy to the family of Janice Stevens upon her death September 20th. Please keep her husband, Keith, daughter Carolyn, son Peter, and the entire family in your prayers. Jan's memorial service will be at Saron on September 28 at 11 a.m.

God is our refuge and strength. Psalm 46:1a

Worship

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to read and reflect on the Scriptures for the day.

Sunday Oct. 7
The Feast of St. Francis
Genesis 1
Psalm 148
Ephesians 2
Luke 12

Sunday Oct. 14
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
Psalm 90:12-17
Hebrews 4:12-16
Mark 10:17-3

Sunday Oct. 21
Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 53:4-12
Psalm 91:9-16
Hebrews 5:1-10
Mark 10:35-45

Sunday Oct. 28
Reformation Sunday
Jeremiah 31:7-9
Psalm 126
Hebrews 7:23-28
Mark 10:46-52

Nursery News
For every worship service, we need a volunteer in addition to our paid childcare worker. Volunteer during the service time you attend or attend one service and volunteer at the other. Our members have a variety of availability and we work around schedules. You can sign up on the kiosk or let Marilyn Lucy know you are interested.

PRAYER GROUP
Join us on Mondays at 11:00 a.m. for a time of quiet reflection and prayer, which includes lifting up the requests offered on Sundays at worship. We meet in the sanctuary.

Women of the ELCA

Deborah Circle -
The meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 10, 2018, at the home of Linda Pater. Denise Cook will be the study leader.

LWR KITS
Each fall Saron Church Women support the collection of **"PERSONAL CARE KITS"**, **"FABRIC KITS", and also CASH DONATIONS for shipping costs** for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). LWR then distributes them all over the world, wherever they are needed.

This year we passed out kit bags beginning **Sunday, SEPTEMBER 16** with the final collection day **Sunday, OCTOBER 7th.** A personal care kit has one light weight bath towel (dark color recommended), two bath-size bars of soap, one adult size toothbrush, one sturdy comb and one metal nail clipper. A fabric kit has 2-4 yards of cloth and matching thread.

PLEASE, "DO NOT ADD OTHER ITEMS OR LEAVE OUT ANY OF THE ITEMS LISTED. ALL ITEMS SHOULD BE NEW AND IN GOOD CONDITION."

The last few years we have been asked to donate money for shipping costs. Donations can be cash or checks made payable to Saron Church Women.

Thank you in advance for your generosity in supporting this ministry.

Learning

book of faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

Saron is a congregation seeking to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered and sent by the Word.

FALL LEARNING HOUR NEWS
Our Fall programming has begun! There are classes for ages 2-adults at 9:40 a.m.

Those who are in high school or below will meet in the downstairs Sunday School wing. This includes Confirmation students, grades 6-8. The adult forum will be held upstairs in the lounge.
Questions? Contact Kristen Harper

EPHESUS BIBLE STUDY GROUP
The Ephesus group will meet on Sunday, October 28th, beginning at 5 pm., at the home of Bob and Mary Kynast. This year we are studying Short Stories by Jesus: the enigmatic parables of a controversial rabbi, written by Amy-Jill Levine. We begin with our study hour and then share a simple meal. Anyone interested is welcome to join the discussions at any time. Call Bob (269-921-2786) or Mary (269-921-3816) if you'd like to come and try out the group.

Tuesday Evening Men's Bible Study
Saron's Tuesday Evening Men's Bible Study meets at 6:00pm at the church. At 7:00pm we adjourn for a time of fellowship (something to eat and something to drink). We know everyone is busy so Bible study is a "come as you can" group. All men are invited to join in.

For more information call or text Bob Kynast at 269-921-2786 or bobkynast@gmail.com or Sid at 312-209-1301 or sidmohn@gmail.com.

"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another" (Proverbs 27:17).
Bob Kynast bobkynast@gmail.com *269-921-2786*

Thursday Morning Bible Study
On October 4 we finish our study on 1 Corinthians. Then, on October 11, we will spend one week looking at the Reformed Church in America their beliefs and practices, and how they compare to the ELCA. Watch the bulletin for details about subsequent studies.

The class meets on Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:00. We are always welcoming newcomers. Please join us!

Men's monthly Bible Devotions and Breakfast
Men's Monthly Devotion resumes Saturday, October 6th, at the Galley Grill on Red Arrow Highway in Stevensville at 9:00 am. The Galley Grill is on the Super 8 Motel property at 4296 Red Arrow Highway. All Saron men are invited and guests are welcome!

1ST SUNDAY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
October 7th, 6:30 in the upstairs lounge, we kick off a new season of good reading, good discussions and good company with "Little Fires Everywhere", by Celeste Ng. This novel has been named Best Book of the Year by too many review sources to count. Amazon says: "It explores the weight of secrets, the nature of art and identity, the ferocious pull of motherhood and the danger of believing that following the rules can avert disaster". That's a lot to talk about!
Coming up on November 4th, "Magpie Murders", by Anthony Horowitz takes center stage. This is a real life mystery/ thriller hidden within a fictional story that is also a mystery/thriller. Get it? Hope so, because as the reader, you become the detective working on the case. Potentially, a fun challenge for us all.

Come be a part of both discussions. There are book marks available in the Narthex listing selections for this season. Questions? Contact Kathy Cowall (269-428-0354) or kcowall@hotmail.com.
"There are worse crimes than burning books. One of them is not reading them". (Joseph Brodsky)

Are you and/or your child interested in his/her coming to the meal each Sunday? Saron's Communion practice is to offer instruction and First Communion to children of any age, per the decision of the individual family in conversation with the pastor. Typically instruction includes 2 sessions with Pastor Joan and learning time with parents between. Classes will be offered this fall. Please let Pastor know of your interest so that a time can be arranged.

FORTIFY & fly

Introducing Project Fortify & Fly: A Foretaste of the Feast to Come

With the guidance of our consultant, Reverend Luke Bouman, we've already checked-off two big milestones in our 2018 capital appeal project! First, we had an excellent turnout at our Visioning Event on September 9th, where groups worked together to identify Saron's core strengths, dream of our potential future and narrow down a big wish list to our top 5 priorities that need further exploration by focus groups. We learned to build on strengths, fortifying our foundation, rather than simply fix weaknesses. It was a truly inspirational afternoon. Then, on September 15th, the leadership team gathered for a full day of training which mainly functioned to get us focused on a theme, energized and ready for the work ahead. Look forward to one of our many committee directors asking for your help in the coming weeks. If you aren't approached, raise your hand! With so many exciting events on the horizon, we have a place for you. Learn more about the leadership team, our progress and what's ahead for all of us in the Fortify & Fly Newsletter, coming soon to a mailbox near you.

SUPPORT

A Special Message for Travelers and Those Who Prefer Electronic Giving

Saron offers the option to give electronically for your convenience. Please contact the church office if you have any questions or to enroll. Thanks.

STOCK DONATIONS

Saron partners with TD Ameritrade, a brokerage firm, to accept stock donations. If you would like to donate stock, e-mail Matt Bradley and Nanci Fenrick to receive the account number for which the shares will be transferred to. Once the transaction has been completed, e-mail Matt Bradley and Nanci Fenrick the name of the stock, the number of shares, and the date of the transfer. This allows the transaction to be completed and ensures it is included on your giving statement.
Thanks! Matt Bradley, treasurer

Are you a Thrivent member?

If so, you have an opportunity to help with the funding of a work project, as coordinated through our Outreach or Facilities teams. Please let Janet Oleson or Pastor know if you are a member, have interest or questions.

Hospitality

Sign Up for Refreshments

Please consider signing up for refreshments to be served after worship on Sundays. There is a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board.

Outreach

FACEBOOK & WORSHIP VIDEO

We love to share pictures of Saron's ministry on our Facebook page and we get great feedback. It is our practice not to put names with the pictures.
Portions of our worship are being recorded for the purpose of sharing with those who are not able to attend worship, particularly those who are home bound. If you have questions, or prefer your picture not to appear on a video, please contact Aaron Becker (at the camera) or Pastor.

BENTON HARBOR SOUP KITCHEN

On July 26 Saron members served 152 meals at the Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen. Our volunteers that day were Sue Harris , Kathie & Dave Bradley, Coanne Hohman, & Ruth Ball. A smile, a kind word, & hot food – what a great way to continue Saron"s mission of God's Work, Our Hands. Cookies bakers in July were Katie Hooper, Amy Nelson, Karen Johnson, Jan Taylor, Beth Gray-Roll, Laurel Gacek, Deanna Deaton, Janet Larson, & the Dorcas Circle. Special thanks to Irma Gorman who provided musical treats for all to enjoy.

Large cans of fruit are always needed at the Soup Kitchen & can be dropped off anytime at the church. Any questions or to volunteer or provide cookies please contact Kathie Bradley at 269-427-7083.

MEET ME AT THE FREEZER

We will need a volunteer to be in charge of organizing "Meet Me at the Freezer" project. If you have interest, contact Pastor. Thank you! The freezer meals are available down in the dining room in the LARGE freezer. If you know of someone who could use a meal, for any reason, please take it to them or invite them to take one after worship. No questions asked. Enjoy!

MICHIGAN BLOOD DRIVE

Our next drive is Monday, **October 29th.** Sheets will be up for donating, snacks, hospitality, set-up and tear-down, please help out where you are able. Blood Fact: On average, 1 out of every 7 people entering the hospital will need blood. Blood Fact: There is no substitute for human blood. If you have any questions regarding the blood drive, please contact Marilyn Lucy or check out MIBLOOD.ORG.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Thank you to all who donated school supplies for Lybrook Elementary School in Eau Claire. You made a lot of thankful teachers happy!

Facilities

USED INK CARTRIGES NEEDED

Please save your used ink cartridges as we receive rebates to be used on office supplies. There is a collection box in the Narthex. Thank you.

Council News

Attendance Record	
08/26/2018	*78*
09/02/2018	*61*
09/09/2018	*106*
09/16/2018	*86*
09/23/2018	*90*

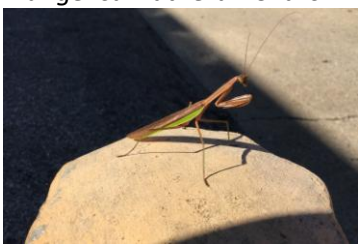
Saron's Council Members – 2018

Karen Hinckley (326-0688) – President
Judi Huff (473-5075) – Vice President
Matt Bradley (419-306-5780) – Treasurer
Karen Johnson (269-983-2800) – Secretary
+++
Tyler Cook (429-5550) – Worship
Brad Frey (921-8618) – Facilities
Scott Gaspari (847-373-8825) – Youth
Nolan Becker (269-558-3252) – Youth
Don Hafer (269-470-2255) - Support
Karen Johnson (269-983-2800) – Hospitality
Judy Huff (473-5075) - Hospitality
Kristen Harper (277-9277) – Learning
Amy Nelson (920-227-5354) – Outreach
Joan Oleson (983-1273) office; 983-2475 home) – Pastor

SARON LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 MAIN STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085

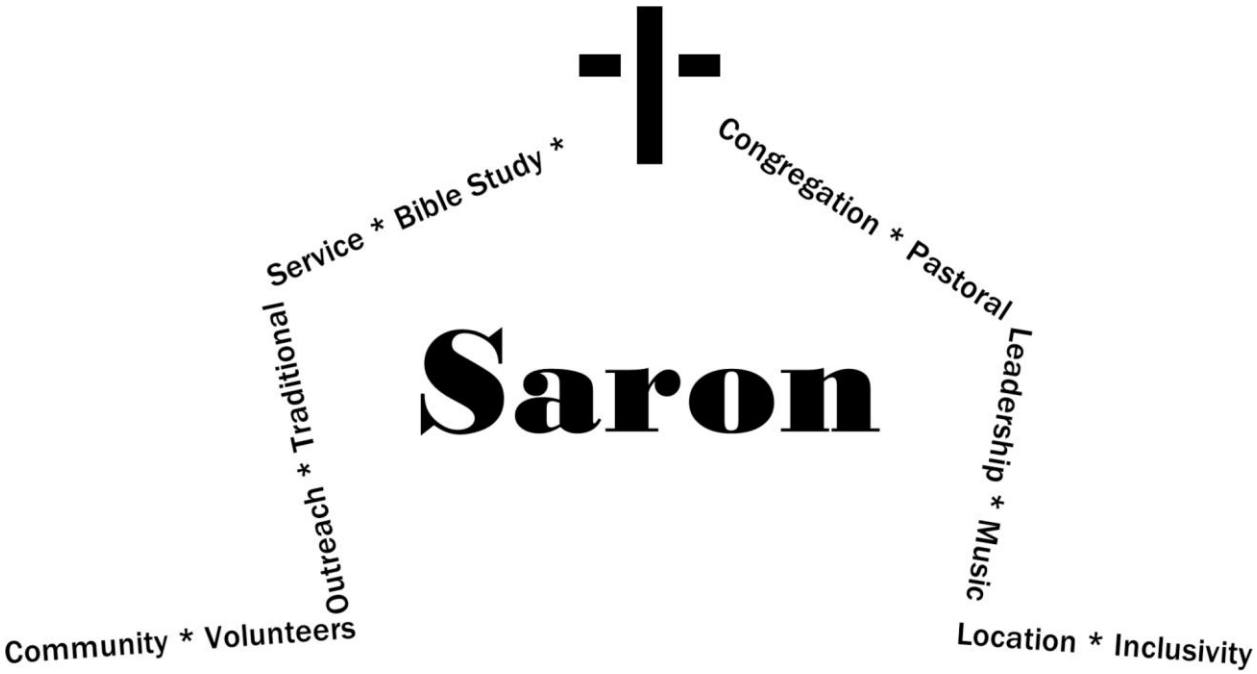
Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email:info@saronlutheran.org

A Congregation of:
The North/West Lower Michigan Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



October 2018

We're on Facebook! Like us at
www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph



Saron
October Volunteer Schedule

	October 7 *Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost*		*October 14* *Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost*		*October 21* *Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost*		*October 28* *Reformation Sunday*	
	8:30	**11:00**	**8:30**	**11:00**	**8:30**	**11:00**	**8:30**	**11:00**
Assisting minister	Marilyn Frey	Denise Cook	Eric Standen	Tyler Cook	Wendy King	Dennis Lundgren	Sue Rood	Colleen Lundgren
Reader/ Comm. Asst.	Karen Hinckley	Mary Kynast	Susan Harris	Judi Huff	Eric Standen	Matt Bradley	Fritz Knauf	Connie Slater
Ushers	Eric and Deb Standen	Jerry and Ruth Stelling	Jim Manore and Steve Bell	Scott and Lindsay Gaspari	Walt and Sally Schmuhl	Peter and Karen Johnson	Brad and Marilyn Frey	Pat Breyen and Rebecca Sebrechts
Acolyte		Grant Gacek	Brooke Henderson	Molly Becker	Troy Burrow	Mia Bradley	Brandon & Troy Burrow Brooke & Jenna Henderson	Meredith & Grant Gacek Molly Becker & Mia Bradley
Nursery 1st	Fran Richards	Molly Becker	Allison Rood	Kate Kohs	Mary Alice Brunner	Karen Hinckley	Marilyn Lucy	Ruth Stelling
Nursery 2nd	Emily Gaul	Emily Gaul	Emily Gaul	Emily Gaul	Emily Gaul	Emily Gaul	Emily Gaul	Emily Gaul
Bldg. close		Bob and Mary Kynast		Marilyn and Brad Frey		Dave & Kathie Bradley		Bob Hopkins
Snacks								
Flowers	**Credo Candle** Hanna Breyen Birthday on the 10th of Oct	Mary Kynast Birthday 4th of Oct.		Karen Hinckley in memory of mom Louise Stakley		Dave and Sue Bailey anniversary on the 13th of Oct.		Keith Stevens birthday on the 20th of Oct.

October 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Each Week *8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion* *9:40 a.m. SCS Classes*	**1** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	**2** 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**3** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers 7:00 p.m. Inclusivity Task Force	**4** 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal Pastor on	**5** Vacation---------	6 9:00 a.m. Men's Devotion/Breakfast at the Galley Grill in Stevensville ----------
7 6:30 p.m. 1ST Sunday Book Discussion Group	**8** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group ----------	**9** 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Support Committee ----------	**10** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers 7:00pm Deborah Circle ----------	**11** 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir Pastor back	**12**	13
14 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 9:40 a.m. SCS Classes	**15** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group 7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting Newsletter Articles due	**16** 4:00 p.m. Vasa 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**17** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers	**18** 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	**19**	20
21 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 9:40 a.m. SCS Classes	**22** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	**23** 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**24** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers	**25** 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	**26**	27
28 Reformation Sunday 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 9:40 a.m. SCS Classes	**29** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group Michigan Blood Drive	**30** 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**31** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers			